California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Coast Region

Terry Tamminen
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

Internet address: http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb3
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101, San Luis Obispo, California 93401
Phone: 805-549-3147 • FAX: 805-543-0397

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

Timber Harvest Information Form

1. **Plan or Notice Name:** (to follow) **And Number:**

2. **Landowner's Contact Information:**

Name: Don Long, Castro Valley Ranch L.L.C.

Address: 2010 Castro Valley Road

City: Gilroy | State: CA | Zip Code: 95020

Phone: (408) 842-2808 | E-mail address (optional):

3. **Name and Phone Number of Contact Person(s):**

Name: Joe McGuire | Phone: (510) 769-1918

Name: Don Long | Phone: (408) 842-2808

4. **Registered Professional Forester:**

RPF Name/Signature: Gene Forsburg | RPF Number: 1872

Address: Buena Vista Services
1134E Ballena Blvd., #6

City: Alameda | State: CA | Zip Code: 94501

Phone: (510) 299-4101 | E-mail address (optional):

5. **Certification:**

I, the Landowner named above, hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the CDF-approved plan or CDF-accepted notice and the accompanying fact sheet accurately represent site conditions and I understand that, as the Landowner, I am ultimately responsible for all activities that occur on my property. I also understand that I am ultimately responsible for compliance with all conditions of any Waste Discharge Requirements or Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements issued for the above-referenced activity.

Signature: for CVPI Dan Long CFS VP | Date: 3/9/2004

Timber Harvest Information Form

Attachments
Site Map
Fact Sheet

TIMBER HARVEST PLAN FACT SHEET

The following supplemental information will be used in the approval process of the above-referenced Timber Harvest activity.

1. Timber Harvest Plan (to follow)

Name:	Number:
Location: **Near Gilroy, California**	Watershed Name: **Pescadero, Blackhawk**

2. Responsible Parties

Land Owner **Castro Valley Properties, L.L.C**		
Address: **525 University Ave., Suite 1400**		
City **Palo Alto**	State **CA**	Zip Code **94301**
Phone: **(408) 842-2808**	E-mail address (optional):	
Timber Owner (if different from Land Owner): **Same as Landowner**		
Address:		
City	State	Zip Code
Phone: ( )	E-mail address (optional):	
Forester: **Gene Forsburg**		
Address: **Buena Vista Services, 1134E Ballena Blvd., #6**		
City **Alameda**	State **CA**	Zip Code **94501**
Phone: **(510) 299-4101**	E-mail address (optional):	

Castro Valley Ranch
Timber Harvest Plan Summary
(to accompany THP Fact Sheet submitted to RWQCB)

Introduction.

The proposed project is the second selective harvest of redwood on Castro Valley Ranch. During the first harvest, in 1986, the road network was completed and is substantially in useable condition today. The current forester was also responsible for that first operation. The attached map includes an exhaustive inventory of road problems; most of these are quite minor. However, a few are more significant and will be highlighted herein.

a) Acreage of THP

Pescadero Creek watershed	191 acres
Blackhawk Canyon watershed	60
	251 acres

b) Logging Technique

Ground based skidding (inc. long line)	90%
Cable	10%

c) Erosion Hazard

Medium - present
High – present
Extreme – not present

(note: for safety and convenience, the project area will be treated as "High" throughout)

d) Stream Classes

I – not present
II – 8,500 feet frontage within harvest area
III – 23,500 feet frontage within harvest area

(note: harvest will take place in four small sub-watersheds containing both Classes II and III, and five having only III)

e) Canopy Retention

The width of stream protection zones, and the tree canopy retention *minima,* are stipulated in the Forest Practice Rules. For this project, Class III watercourses will have the following Equipment Limitation Zones (ELZ):

<30% slopes: 25 foot ELZ
>30% slopes: 50 foot ELZ

Current overstory canopy levels in these zones average around 80%. Average overstory canopy immediately following harvest will be around 60%. At least 50% of the understory vegetation present prior to harvesting will be retained to ensure filter strip properties and maintain soil stability in the zone.

For Class II watercourses, the following stream zones will be applied:

<30% slopes: 50 foot wide zone
30-50% slopes: 75 foot wide zone
>50% slopes: 100 foot wide zone

Current overstory canopy levels in these zones average around 90%. Average overstory canopy immediately following the harvest will be around 60%. Forest Practice Rules require that at least 50% of the total canopy shall be left in a well distributed, multistoried stand composed of a diversity of species similar to that found prior to operations. The residual overstory canopy shall be composed of at least 25% of the existing conifers.

It should be noted that selection cutting will leave a continuous forest canopy throughout the balance of the harvest area. Outside of the watercourse zones, the harvest method will result in canopy retention of at least 40%.

The following areas of commercial redwood lying along streams are "No-Cut" zones (and therefore do not appear on the accompanying maps). These areas were excluded from the THP due to landowner objectives, logging feasibility, and a desire to limit impacts to stream and habitat resources.

Lower Hatfield Canyon	38 acres
Pescadero, Redwood Creeks	26
Unamed tributary along Whitehurst Rd	10
Bodfish (near Crossing 6-1)	2
	76 acres

f) Roads

Existing roads	Approximately 15.9 miles to public road (includes 1.7 mi.of private surfaced road)
New roads	Only one; approx. 300 feet of temporary road
Reconstructed roads	None (road prism is substantially in place throughout; no excavation is required to establish road prism)
Roads in unstable areas	Most of the unstable areas shown consist of minor fill slope erosion or minor cut bank slumping. These will be repaired by cutting into the bank, avoiding sidecast, and establishing good drainage by using waterbreaks and/or berms. In three locations (S5-1, S4-8, S3-3), the same phenomenon has resulted in larger slides although the road prism is intact and treatment will be similar. At S3-4 relatively large quantities of cut bank fell into the road, the resulting spoil will be "crowned" on the road surface.
Roads in WLPZ*	Most logging roads were established in 1986 when different setbacks applied. In the following locations existing roads encroach on the flagged WLPZ. In all of these cases the roads are stable and there would be greater risk of environmental damage associated with re-excavating the road in a different location. Within WLPZ's, road opening operations will be limited to clearing the running surface, waterbreaks will be flagged by an RPF, and bare areas will be seeded as appropriate. Above and below L3-2: +/- 800 feet Near C3-4: +/- 250 feet Near C6-2: +/- 600 Near M6-4: +/- 300 At L9-3: road on pond dam to facilitate drafting Near M11-2: +/- 1,400 feet

* *Watershed and Lake Protection Zone, as defined in the Forest Practices Act.*

g) Landings

Existing landings	14 each.
New landings	9 each. All are on flat terrain except L4-4 which will be constructed from short cuts and fills. Following use it will be recontoured and seeded; the channel of a nearby Class III will be maintained.
Reconstructed landings	None
Landings in unstable areas	None
Landings in WLPZ	Two existing landings encroach on the WLPZ at L5-4 and L6-2. Both are stable and there would be greater risk of environmental damage associated with re-locating them. Within WLPZ's, landing opening will retain filter vegetation in so far as possible, drainage will be flagged by an RPF, and the landing will be seeded.

h) Skid Trails

Existing skid trails	Numerous established in 1986; estimate 4 miles. Includes skid roads and skid trails which travel over the surface without significant excavation.
New skid trails	Three with a total length of +/- 3,400 feet. These have been flagged in the field and one involves a temporary crossing (see below).
Skid trails in WLPZ	None (except for crossings). Existing skid trails in WLPZ's will not be opened.
Trails in unstable areas	Six locations of note: At S3-10 and S4-6 tractors will operate over the top of an unstable area without excavation. After, waterbreaks will be flagged by a forester and the trail seeded. In two locations no harvesting will take place on the slide and existing trails will be decommissioned (S4-9 and S5-4); this has been demarked by expanded WLPZ flagging. At S4-4 jack-strawed trees will be removed but equipment will not enter the slide area. At S10-3 a surface slide has fully revegetated; the

existing trail should avoid undercutting and drainage will be flagged by a forester.

i) Mitigation Points

Water Crossings - There are 30 watercourse crossings and, except for one spring, these are all normally dry during the operating period. They are summarized:

Existing culverts or fords in good condition:	23 each. These variously require clearing of inlet, refurbishment of trash racks, and occasional installation of Sacrete headwalls.
Culverts requiring repair (or substitute ford):	4 each. C3-4 and C4-2 are major failures owing to debris or uncompacted fill. Existing pipes will be retrieved (sizing will be checked for 100 year event), and fill will be compacted in 12" lifts using plate vibrating compactor, Sacrete headwall, new trash racks, and relief dip will be installed. C5-4 and C6-1 are susceptible to continuing plugging. After hauling (but before the first winter period) they will be replaced with armoured fords.
Flatcar bridge:	One (temporary) at C11-9.
Temporary Crossings:	Two at C3-7 and C6-2. These will not be operated if flowing or in the winter period. Avoid disturbance of channel bed or walls – install then remove clean gravel and/or a temporary pipe. Upon conclusion remove pipe and gravel (without excavation), seed and mulch approaches, and "tanktrap" to prevent access..

Roads – In addition to features noted above, two areas will require special mitigation to reduce cronic problems. Near C6-2, rolling dips will be flagged, selected road surfaces will be rocked, and nearby streamsides have Sacrete walls installed to prevent bank cutting. Near C11-9, rolling dips, rock, and sediment traps will be installed. Also, at M6-1, M8-1, M9-1, and M9-2 rock will be installed to protect road surfaces or where positive drainage is not possible.

Skid trails – See above.

Landings – See above.

j) In Lieu Practices – Yes. In lieu practices include roads and landings within the WLPZ. These locations are historical, stable, and alternative sites have greater environmental risk. See above for listing and mitigation of these sites.

k) Water Drafting – Yes. To control fugitive dust, water will be drafted from designated ranch ponds only and not from live streams. Ponds will be reviewed first for possible presence of sensitive species. A rate of 50 gallons per minute is estimated. Other drafting in the watersheds is not known.

l) Winter Operations - The winter period in the harvest area is October 15 through May 1. Because the proposed THP is located within a watershed with threatened or impaired values, a complete winter operations plan will be included in the THP, and is summarized below.

Erosion Hazard Rating (EHR) on the THP is Moderate and High, but will be designated High for the entire plan area in order to simplify the implementation of erosion control measures, and to achieve a higher level of resource protection.

Yarding on the THP is mostly tractor based, but the steepest +/-25 acres will be yarded using a cable-based or long-lining system. No mechanical site preparation methods will be used on this plan. Single-tree selection silviculture will leave a continuous forest canopy throughout the harvest area.

Tractor operations may occur during the winter period from October 15 to December 1, or until the accumulation of four inches of rain after October 15 (as measured at Mount Madonna County Park), whichever comes first. Tractor operations may also occur from April 15 to May 1. Tractor operations shall only occur during periods of extended periods with low antecedent soil wetness and no saturated soil conditions as defined in 14 CCR 895.1. Low antecedent soil wetness shall be considered present if Mount Madonna County Park has recorded no more than 4 inches of rain during the previous month, and a storm producing more than ¼ inch of rain has not occurred for at least 48 hours. Cable yarding may occur during the winter period. Log decking, and log loading and hauling, shall occur only if saturated soil conditions are not present on the landing and/or haul road.

All temporary crossings will be removed and treated prior to October 15 and shall not be installed prior to May 1. Erosion control structures shall be installed on landings and haul roads prior to the end of the day if the U.S. Weather Service forecasts >30% chance of rain before the next day or prior to any weekend or shutdown period. Erosion control structures for roads will consist of rolling dips or water bars. All tractor roads shall have drainage facilities installed as soon as practical following yarding and prior to: either the start of rain which causes overland flow across or along the disturbed surface within a WLPZ or within any Equipment Limitation Zone (ELZ) or Equipment Exclusion Zone (EEZ) designated for watercourse or lake protection, or: any day with a National Weather

Service forecast of a chance of rain of 30% or more, a flash flood warning, or a flash flood watch. All landings used in the winter period will be seeded with annual rye at 35 lbs. per acre and straw mulched to at least 3" on completion of the use of that landing within the winter period. No more than one landing will be operational at any given time for cable yarding and log loading. No more than two landings and appurtenant skid trails will be operational for tractor yarding in the winter period. In addition, winter operations shall not take place on the following landings: 3-2, 3-3, 4-3, 4-4, 5-4, 6-1, 9-1, and 10-2.

No tractor operations shall occur within any WLPZ during the winter period. Tree felling, lopping, and erosion control shall be allowed in the WLPZ's during the winter period. Vehicle traffic in within WLPZ and ELZ areas during the winter period shall be by foot, ATV or light passenger vehicle, except in an emergency.

Operations on known unstable areas in the winter period shall be limited to tree falling. Cross-felling of Class III watercourses is permitted. If a cross-felled log is blocking the normal flow of a watercourse during the winter period, the faller shall buck out the blocking portion by hand.

m) Cumulative Impacts Analysis

There are two California Planning Watersheds (CPW) potentially affected by this project.

Watershed Name	CPW ID	Acres	THP Acres	% of CPW
Pescadero Creek	**305.20031**	**6,912**	**191**	**2.76**
Blackhawk Canyon	**305.20030**	**6,499**	**60**	**0.90**

About a mile below the proposed operations Pescadero Creek is Class I and a present (or restorable) fishery. It further drains southward into the Pajaro River that is significantly impaired by both agricultural and human impacts. Bodfish Creek, probably a Class I by the time it reaches Blackhawk Canyon, is joined by an unnamed tributary in Whitehurst Canyon and then drains northeastward into Uvas Creek and eventually into the Pajaro. The Pajaro drains to the sea at Watsonville.

The upper portions of these watersheds are quite rural and possible cumulative impacts arise only from occasional timber harvesting, cattle operations, and the risk of wildfire. In the lower watersheds, characterized by lower stream gradients, agriculture, rural housing, roads, and development are more common land uses.

The landowner is currently developing a water quality plan for the grazing operations on the ranch. This will preliminarily emphasize developing alternate water sources for cattle at springs and road maintenance.

Except for approximately 300 feet of new temporary road construction, all of the roadwork associated with this THP will consist of reusing existing forest roads. Roads designed and constructed during the previous timber harvest in 1986 have proven to be

stable, and in many cases, re-vegetated with broom and other ground cover that served to mitigate surface soil movement over the intervening years. All stream crossings and road erosion sources have been catalogued and specific mitigations developed. Thus legacy erosion sources along the access roads will be mitigated as part of this project.

Roads developed for the first timber harvest will generally be left for seasonal use with rolling dips and crossable waterbars. Temporary roads will be waterbared and rendered impassible. Ranch roads outside of the harvest areas were historically located on ridgetops and are generally subject to more frequent use due to cattle operations. These will have a combination of rolling dips, outsloping, and occasional rocking to provide for more passive erosion control. Two areas in particular, near Crossings 6-1 and 11-9 appear to be significant sources of cumulative impacts to water quality that will be mitigated as part of this project.

As the impact from selective harvesting from an existing road network is likely to be benign, correction of the problems described above may result in a net improvement of water quality conditions. All crossings and road surfaces will be monitored for effectiveness following major storm events for at least three years following completion of timber operations; this work will be carried out by a combination of the operator, the owner, and its forester.

n. Names and addresses of property owners within 300 feet:

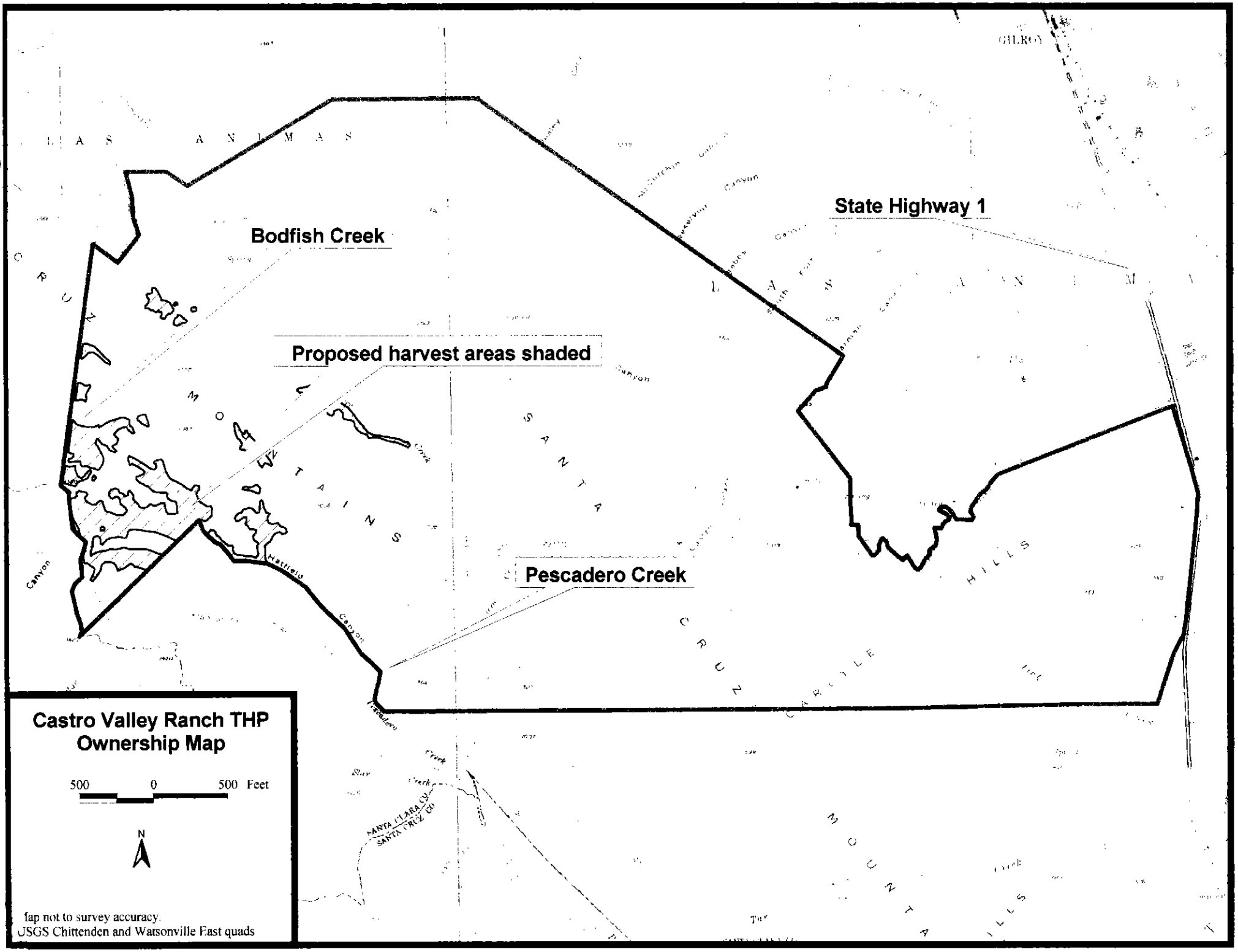
Walsh Fletcher Enterprises, Inc.
5238 Renaissance Ave
San Diego, CA. 92122

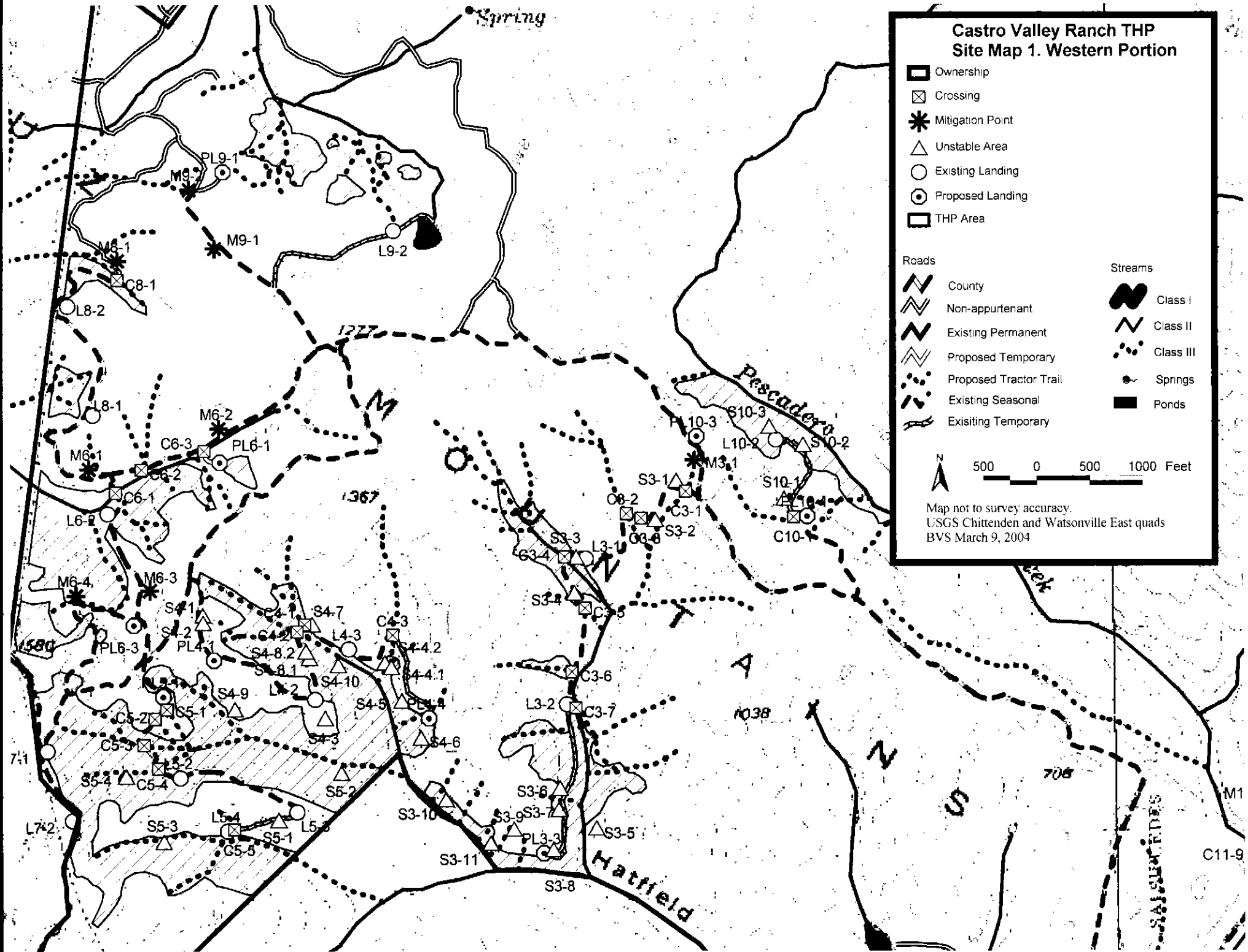
Norman E. Dickens Trustee et al.
c/o Norman E. Dickens
353 E East Tenth – PMB 623 ST
Gilroy, CA. 95010-9425

Kelly Thompson Ranch LLC
P.O. Box 597
Watsonville, CA. 95077-0597

CSY Sargent Ranch LP
2260 Douglas Bl., Unit #240
Roseville, CA. 95661

Don and Barbara Westbrook
1065 Castro Valley Road
Gilroy, CA. 95020-9595


State Highway 1
Bodfish Creek
Proposed harvest areas shaded
Pescadero Creek
Castro Valley Ranch THP
Ownership Map
500 0 500 Feet
N
Map not to survey accuracy.
USGS Chittenden and Watsonville East quads


Castro Valley Ranch THP
Site Map 1. Western Portion
Ownership
Crossing
Mitigation Point
Unstable Area
Existing Landing
Proposed Landing
THP Area
Roads
County
Non-appurtenant
Existing Permanent
Proposed Temporary
Proposed Tractor Trail
Existing Seasonal
Exisiting Temporary
Streams
Class I
Class II
Class III
Springs
Ponds
N
500 0 500 1000 Feet
Map not to survey accuracy.
USGS Chittenden and Watsonville East quads
BVS March 9, 2004
Spring
Pescadero
Hatfield
SAN LORENZO
M9-1
M9-2
PL9-1
L9-2
M8-1
C8-1
L8-2
L8-1
M6-1
M6-2
C6-3
PL6-1
C6-2
C6-1
L6-2
M6-4
M6-3
PL6-3
PL4-1
S4-1
S4-2
S4-7
C4-1
C4-2
C4-3
L4-3
S4-8.2
S4-8.1
S4-10
S4-4.2
S4-4.1
S4-9
L4-2
S4-5
PL4-4
S4-6
S4-3
C5-2
S5-1
C5-3
L5-2
S5-4
C5-4
S5-2
L5-4
S5-3
L5-3
S5-1
C5-5
L7-2
S3-10
S3-11
S3-8
S3-9
PL3-3
S3-6
S3-7
S3-5
L3-2
C3-7
C3-6
L3-1
S3-4
C3-5
S3-3
C3-4
C8-2
C8-1
S3-1
C3-1
S3-2
PL10-3
M3-1
L10-2
S10-3
S10-2
S10-1
C10-1
C11-9
M1
1367
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706
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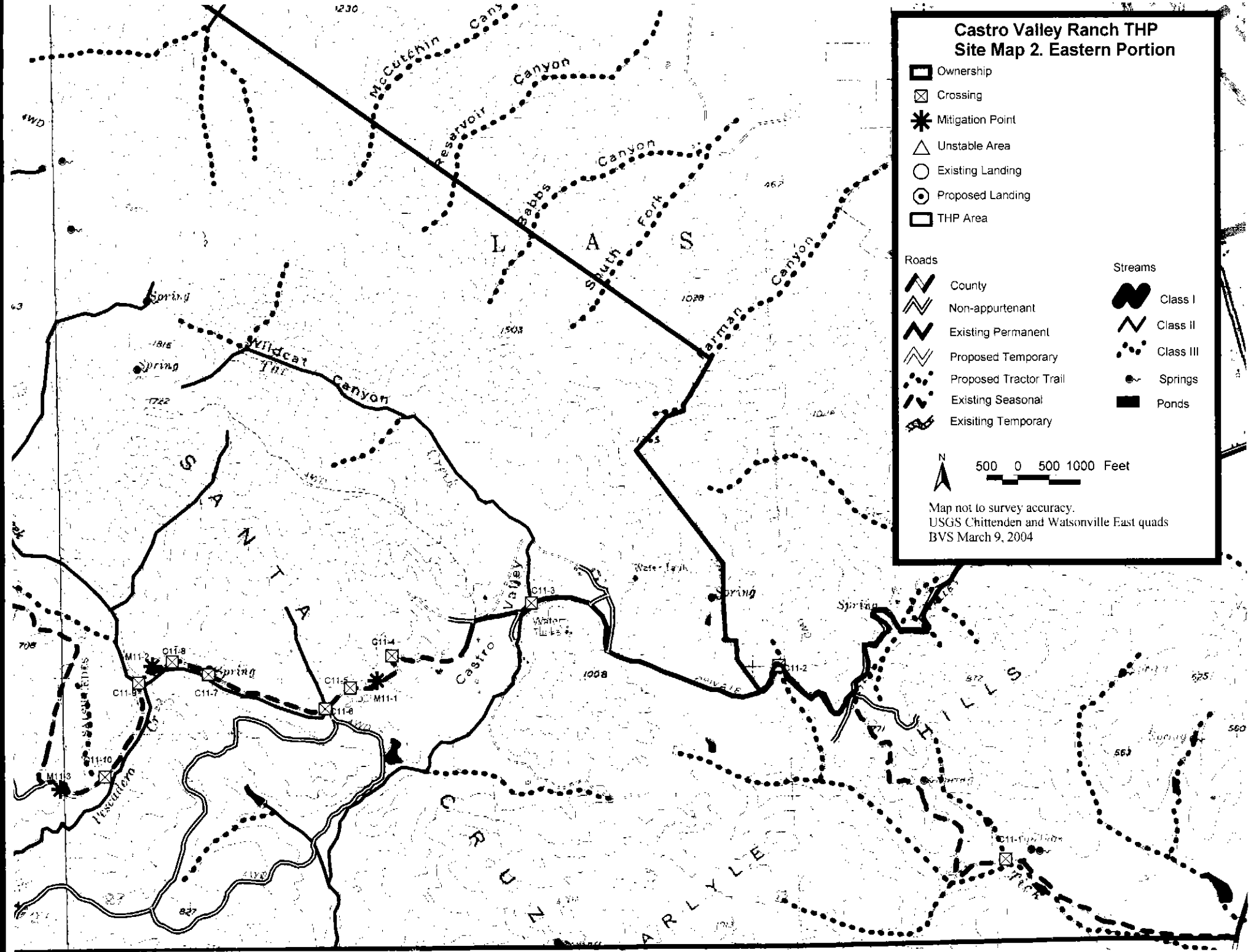
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USGS Chittenden and Watsonville East quads
BVS March 9, 2004
McCutchin Cany
Reservoir Canyon
Babbs Canyon
South Fork
Jarman Canyon
Wildcat Canyon
Castro Valley
SANTA CRUZ MTNS
SALSIPUEDES
Pesquitom
C11-1
C11-2
C11-3
C11-4
C11-5
C11-6
C11-7
C11-8
C11-9
C11-10
M11-1
M11-2
M11-3
Spring
Water Tank